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CANADA'S RANKING AMONG INDUSTRIAL NATIONS IN A SOCIAL POLICY CONTEXT

Social Planning & Research Council
SPRC
of Hamilton-Wentworth

255 West Avenue North, Hamilton, Ontario L8L 5C8
tel: (905) 522-1148 • fax: (905) 522-9124

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February 1995

Mike Pennock
Consultant

Edited by
Heather Rex

SOCIAL PLANNING AND RESEARCH COUNCIL OF HAMILTON-WENTWORTH
255 West Avenue North, Hamilton, Ontario L8L 5C8

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INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this report is to provide a perspective on Canada's position within the international community on a variety of dimensions relevant to the social policy field. The report utilizes a variety of statistical indicators to compare and contrast the Canadian experience with that of other industrial nations on a number of policy dimensions - population and demographics, labour force and employment, wealth, health, education, public security and public finances.

It has been prepared as a contribution to an informed debate about social policy issues in Canada by examining the Canadian experience within an international context.

TABLE 1.1: POPULATION GROWTH
AVERAGE ANNUAL GROWTH RATES

Country	1960-1990	Rank	1990-2000	Rank
Australia	1.7%	1	1.1%	1
Canada	**1.3%**	**2**	**.7%**	**5**
Iceland	1.2%	3	.8%	3
New Zealand	1.2%	3	.8%	4
USA	1.1%	4	.7%	6
Japan	.9%	5	.4%	8
Netherlands	.9%	5	.6%	7
Ireland	.9%	5	.9%	2
Spain	.8%	6	.4%	10
Switzerland	.7%	7	.2%	12
France	.7	7	.4%	9
Luxembourg	.6%	8	.1%	15
Greece	.6%	8	na	na
Portugal	.5%	9	.3	11
Sweden	.4%	10	na	na
Denmark	.4%	10	0	16
Finland	.4%	10	.2%	14
United Kingdom	.3%	11	.2%	13
Austria	.2%	12	na	na
Belgium	.2%	12	na	na
Germany	.2%	12	-.1%	17

Throughout its history, Canada has been a rapidly growing country by western industrial standards. Between 1960 and 1990, it ranked second to Australia with respect to average annual growth rates. This population increase has been spurred by high levels of immigration, increased life expectancies and, following the second world war, by unusually high birth rates. Population growth rates are slowing throughout the western world and this trend has also been true of Canada.

A number of Scandinavian countries (Sweden, Denmark and Finland) and European countries (UK, Austria, Belgium and Germany) have experienced negligible growth throughout the period. Both Japan and the US have experienced moderate to high rates of expansion.

The rapid rate of population growth in Canada required significant investments of funds in the infrastructure required to support a booming population--housing, schools, hospitals, roads etc. Countries experiencing lower rates of population growth needed only to upgrade their existing infrastructure rather than invest in the type of rapid expansion that marked the past decades in Canada.

TABLE 1.2: FERTILITY RATES 1960 AND 1990

Country	1960	Rank	1990	Rank
New Zealand	3.9%	1	2.0%	2
Canada	**3.8%**	**2**	**1.7%**	**5**
Ireland	3.8%	2	2.4%	1
USA	3.5%	3	1.8%	4
Australia	3.3%	4	1.8%	4
Portugal	3.1%	5	1.7%	5
Netherlands	3.1%	5	1.6%	6
Norway	2.9%	6	1.7%	5
Spain	2.8%	7	1.6%	6
France	2.8%	7	1.8%	4
Austria	2.7%	8	1.5%	7
United Kingdom	2.7%	8	1.8%	4
Finland	2.7%	8	1.7%	5
Belgium	2.6%	9	1.6%	6
Denmark	2.6%	9	1.5%	7
Italy	2.5%	10	1.4%	8
Switzerland	2.4%	11	1.5%	7
Germany	2.4%	11	1.5%	7
Sweden	2.3%	12	1.9%	3
Greece	2.2%	13	1.7%	5
Japan	2.0%	14	1.7%	5

During the fifties and sixties, Canada experienced the second highest fertility rate in the industrial world, due to the post-war baby-boom.

By 1990, however, Canadian fertility rates had fallen significantly to more moderate levels.

TABLE 1.3: LIFE EXPECTANCY AT BIRTH
1960 AND 1990

Country	1960	Rank	1990	Rank
Norway	73.4	1	77.1	5
Netherlands	73.2	2	77.2	4
Iceland	73.2	2	77.8	2
Sweden	73.1	3	77.4	3
Denmark	72.1	4	75.8	12
Switzerland	71.2	5	77.4	3
Canada	**71.0**	**6**	**77.0**	**6**
New Zealand	70.9	7	75.2	15
Australia	70.7	8	76.5	7
United Kingdom	70.6	9	75.7	13
France	70.3	10	76.4	8
Belgium	70.2	11	75.2	15
USA	69.9	12	75.9	11
Italy	69.2	13	76.0	10
Germany	69.5	14	75.2	15
Ireland	69.0	15	74.6	18
Greece	68.7	16	76.1	9
Austria	68.6	17	74.8	17
Finland	68.4	18	75.5	14
Luxembourg	68.1	19	74.9	16
Japan	68.1	19	78.6	1
Portugal	63.3	20	74.0	19

Life expectancies have increased substantially in most western industrial countries and Canada's ranking remained unchanged between 1960 and 1990. Throughout the period, the Canadian rates remained above those of the U.S. and most European countries.

Both Denmark and New Zealand experienced substantial drops in their ranking between 1960 and 1990, while Japan experienced a remarkable rate of increase. The life expectancies of Japanese increased by 10.5 years between 1960 and 1990 when Japan moved from having the second lowest expectancy in 1960 to the highest in 1990.

TABLE 1.4: PERCENTAGE OF THE POPULATION AGED FIFTEEN AND LESS 1960 AND 1989

Country	1960	Rank	1989	Rank
Iceland	34.8	1	25.2	2
Canada	**33.7**	**2**	**21.0**	**6**
New Zealand	32.8	3	23.1	3
United States	31.0	4	21.7	5
Ireland	30.5	5	27.8	1
Finland	30.4	6	19.4	11
Australia	30.1	7	22.1	4
Japan	30.1	7	19.0	12
Netherlands	30.0	8	18.3	14
Portugal	29.0	9	20.7	7
Spain	27.3	10	20.4	8
France	26.4	11	20.2	9
Norway	26.1	12	18.9	14
Greece	25.9	13	19.8	10
Denmark	25.2	14	17.2	18
Belgium	23.5	15	18.1	15
Switzerland	23.5	15	16.8	20
Italy	23.4	16	15.4	21
United Kingdom	23.3	17	18.9	13
Sweden	22.4	18	17.8	16
Austria	22.0	19	17.4	17
Luxembourg	21.4	20	17.1	19
Germany	21.3	21	1	22

As a result of the post-war baby-boom, Canada experienced the second highest concentration of young persons in their population in 1960. By 1989, both the rate and ranking had dropped substantially, although the rate remained relatively high in comparison with other industrial nations.

The size of the youth population has important implications with respect to both private and public expenditures. In countries with high concentrations of youth, governments are required to make significant investments in education and other youth-related services which are not required to the same degree in countries with lower concentrations of young persons such as Germany, Austria, Sweden and the UK.

A large concentration of young persons is also a precursor of rapid labour force growth, as these residents move out of adolescence and begin to look for work.

TABLE 1.5: PERCENTAGE OF THE POPULATION AGED 65 & OVER 1960 AND 1989

Country	1960	Rank	1989	Rank
Austria	12.1	1	15.1	5
Belgium	12.0	2	14.7	7
United Kingdom	11.7	3	15.6	3
Sweden	11.7	3	17.8	3
France	11.6	4	13.9	9
Norway	10.9	5	16.3	2
Ireland	10.9	5	11.5	17
Germany	10.9	5	13.7	10
Luxembourg	10.8	6	13.4	11
Denmark	10.6	7	15.5	4
Switzerland	10.2	8	14.4	8
United States	9.3	9	12.5	16
Italy	9.0	10	14.9	6
Netherlands	9.0	10	12.7	15
New Zealand	8.7	11	10.8	20
Australia	8.5	12	11.0	19
Spain	8.2	13	13.1	13
Portugal	8.1	14	13.0	14
Greece	8.1	14	13.7	10
Iceland	8.0	15	10.5	21
Canada	**7.6**	**16**	**11.3**	**13**
Finland	7.6	17	13.2	12
Japan	6.1	18	11.5	17

Many of the countries which experienced low concentrations of young persons in their population have correspondingly experienced high concentrations of persons aged 65 and over. Although the numbers of elderly persons are rising, Canada is a demographically "young" country, with relatively small populations of elderly persons. Canada will not attain the concentration of older persons which is currently experienced by Sweden, for example, until late in the second decade of the next century.

Countries which experience higher concentrations of elderly persons are required to make substantial investments in health care and pensions which are not required by younger countries such as Canada and Japan.

TABLE 1.6: DEPENDENCY RATIO*

1990

Country	Ratio
Ireland	61.2
Iceland	54.9
Sweden	54.8
Norway	54.2
UK	52.4
Portugal	51.8
USA	51.6
France	51.2
New Zealand	50.8
Greece	50.3
Spain	49.7
Australia	49.3
Belgium	48.8
Finland	48.0
Austria	48.0
Denmark	47.9
Canada	**47.8**
Switzerland	45.8
Italy	45.0
Netherlands	44.9
Germany	44.8
Luxembourg	43.7
Japan	43.2

* Size of youth and elderly populations in proportion to the total population.

The dependency ratio is an index of the size of the youth and elderly populations as a proportion of the total population. Since these two population groups are relatively "dependant" upon the working-age population, the ratio is interpreted as a measure of dependency, or the degree to which the earnings of the working-age group are required to support young or old persons in the population. Insofar as the young and the elderly are primary consumers of many public services, countries with high dependency ratios are required to invest more public funds in these services than countries having lower dependency ratios.

In 1990, Canada ranked at the low end of the continuum, largely because of its low concentration of elderly persons and its decreasing concentration of young persons. The western countries with the highest dependency ratios were Ireland, Iceland, Sweden, Norway and the United Kingdom while Japan, Luxembourg, Germany and the Netherlands reported the lowest ratios.

2.0 LABOUR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT OVERVIEW

Canada's labour force experience during the past three decades has been marked by an unusually high rate of labour force expansion. This rate of expansion created intense job creation pressures which were not present in many other industrial nations.

The rapid rate of labour force expansion was a function of increases in the size of the working age population (due to the maturation of the post-war baby-boom cohort) and a dramatic increase in the labour force participation of females. To a considerable extent, the latter factor was a case of "catching-up" to other industrial nations.

Canada also ranked high in employment growth during the period but as a result of the degree of labour force expansion, unemployment remained in the high range among industrial nations. Relative to many other nations, however, Canada experienced lower levels of long-term unemployment among unemployed persons.

Despite the continuing problems with unemployment, Canada ranked in the mid-range among industrial nations with respect to public sector spending on labour market programs.

TABLE 2.1: LABOUR FORCE GROWTH
PERCENT CHANGE

Country	1973-1979	Rank	1980-1989	Rank
Canada	**19.2**	**1**	**24.2**	**1**
United States	15.6	2	23.6	2
Norway	13.2	3	20.7	4
Iceland	12.6	4		
New Zealand	12.0	5	20.7	4
Australia	9.0	6	23.6	3
Luxembourg	9.0	6	15.7	5
Ireland	8.4	7	3.6	16
Finland	7.8	8	4.4	14
Sweden	7.2	9	4.8	13
Netherlands	6.6	10	24.2	1
Japan	6.6	10	11.0	9
Italy	6.6	10	7.6	10
France	5.4	11	4.1	15
Belgium	5.4	11	1.8	17
Greece	3.6	12	15.0	6
United Kingdom	3.6	12	6.2	12
Spain	.6	13	12.3	7
Germany	-1.2	14	6.6	11
Switzerland	-5.4	15	11.4	8

Throughout the '60s, '70s and '80s, Canada led the western world with respect to the growth of its labour force. This was a function of a number of factors--immigration, the maturation of the baby-boom and increased labour force participation by females. The rate of labour force growth in Canada has been three to five times faster than many European nations and two to three times faster than Japan.

This has created intense job creation pressures on the Canadian economy to prevent unemployment from sky-rocketing. Job creation pressures were substantially less in countries such as Switzerland, Germany, Spain, the United Kingdom, France and Japan, given thier relatively low rates of labour force growth.

TABLE 2.2: GROWTH IN THE WORKING AGE POPULATION (15 to 64)
AVERAGE ANNUAL GROWTH RATES

Country	1973-1979	Rank	1980-1989	Rank
Canada	**2.2%**	**1**	**1.1%**	**4**
Ireland	1.8%	2	.8%	7
United States	1.7%	3	1.0%	5
Iceland	1.7%	3	1.5%	2
Australia	1.7%	3	1.8%	1
New Zealand	1.5%	4	1.2%	3
Netherlands	1.4%	5	1.1%	4
Spain	1.2%	6	1.0%	5
Greece	1.1%	7	1.0%	5
Japan	.8%	8	.9%	6
Luxembourg	.8%	8	.6%	9
France	.7%	9	.9%	6
Italy	.7%	9	.7%	8
Belgium	.7%	9	.3%	2
Norway	.6%	10	.7%	8
Finland	.5%	11	.4%	11
United Kingdom	.4%	12	.4%	11
Austria	.4%	12	.7%	8
Denmark	.4%	12	.5%	10
Germany	.3%	13	.7%	8
Sweden	.1%	14	.3%	12

One of the primary reasons for the rapid growth of the Canadian labour force was the growth of the working-age population due to the combined factors of immigration and the maturation of the baby-boom cohort. During the 1970s, this component of the Canadian population increased at a faster rate than any other western industrial nation. This rate of growth decreased in the '80s as a result of the absorption of the baby-boom cohort, although Canada still ranked fourth with respect to the growth of the working-age group.

At the other end of the growth spectrum, Sweden, Germany, Denmark, Austria, and the UK experienced negligible growth.

TABLE 2.3: GROWTH IN FEMALE LABOUR FORCE
ANNUAL AVERAGE GROWTH RATES

Country	1973-1979	Rank	1980-1989	Rank
Canada	**5.0%**	**1**	**1.5%**	**13**
United States	4.1%	2	2.4%	7
New Zealand	3.9%	3	1.9%	10
Norway	3.9%	3	2.1%	8
Iceland	3.8%	4	5.4%	1
Netherlands	3.6%	5	na	
Italy	2.9%	6	3.1%	4
Luxembourg	2.7%	7	2.8%	6
Sweden	2.7%	7	1.3%	15
Belgium	2.6%	8	1.4%	14
Australia	2.5%	8	3.9%	2
Ireland	2.3%	10	1.5%	13
France	2.1%	11	1.6%	12
United Kingdom	1.7%	12	2%	9
Finland	1.6%	13	.9%	16
Greece	1.4%	14	3.7%	3
Spain	1.2%	15	3%	5
Japan	.9%	16	1.6%	12
Germany	.1%	17	1.3%	15
Switzerland	-.2%	18	1.7%	11

The other major factor in the rapid expansion of the Canadian labour force was the dramatic growth experienced caused in part by increased labour participation by females during the 1970s. Canada led the industrial worl with respect to this growth rate, although it dimished considerably during the l980s. It was during the '70s that baby-boomers were unleased onto the labour force, and it was this cohort that increased female labour force participation to the greatest degree.

TABLE 2.4: FEMALES AS A PERCENTAGE OF THE LABOUR FORCE 1960-1967 AND 1980-1989

Country	1960-1967	Rank	1980-1989	Rank
Finland	43.1	1	46.9	1
Japan	40.1	2	39.5	10
Austria	39.4	3	39.5	10
Turkey	39.1	4	35.7	15
Germany	36.6	5	38.7	12
Sweden	36.1	6	46.9	1
France	34.1	7	41.4	6
United States	33.9	8	43.5	3
United Kingdom	33.6	9	40.5	8
Switzerland	33.6	9	37	14
Denmark	33.3	10	45.3	2
Greece	31.8	11	34.3	17
Belgium	31.0	12	39.4	11
Italy	29.6	13	34.9	16
Iceland	29.5	14	40.4	9
Canada	**29.0**	**15**	**42.2**	**5**
Norway	28.7	16	42.9	4
Australia	28.0	17	38.4	13
Luxembourg	26.1	18	33.5	18
New Zealand	26.0	19		
Ireland	25.7	20	29.8	20
Spain	22.8	21	30.5	19
Netherlands	21.9	22		
Portugal	19.5	23	41.2	7

One of the factors leading to the rapid growth in female labour force participation was the relatively low Canadian rate in the 1960s. During that decade, Canada ranked only 15th among industrial nations on this dimension. During the 1980s, Canada ranking had risen to fifth. To some extent, the dramatic growth in female labour force participation that occurred in Canada during the '70s was a "catching-up" of the Canadian economy to the rest of the industrial world. Despite the rapid growth, Canada was still exceeded by the Scandinavian countries and the United States in actual levels of female labour force participation in the '80s.

By way of contrast, the level of female participation actually fell slightly in Japan. During the l960s, Japan enjoyed the second highest rate of female labour force participation among industrial nations but had fallen to a 10th ranking during the 1980s.

TABLE 2.5: EMPLOYMENT GROWTH
AVERAGE ANNUAL GROWTH RATES

Country	1973-1979	Rank	1979-1989	Rank
Canada	**5.0%**	**1**	**3%**	**4**
United States	4.1%	2	2.1%	7
Norway	3.9%	3	2.1%	7
New Zealand	3.9%	3	.1%	16
Iceland	3.8%	4	5.4%	1
Netherlands	3.6%	5	1.2%	13
Italy	2.9%	6	2.0%	8
Luxembourg	2.7%	7	2.8%	6
Sweden	2.7%	7	1.3%	12
Belgium	2.6%	8	1.4%	11
Australia	2.5%	9	3.9%	2
Ireland	2.3%	10	1.5%	10
France	2.1%	11	1.3%	12
United Kingdom	1.7%	12	1.6%	9
Finland	1.6%	13	.9%	14
Greece	1.4%	14	3.7%	3
Spain	1.2%	15	3%	5
Japan	.9%	16	1.6%	9
Germany	.1%	17	.4%	15
Switzerland	-.2%	18	1.3%	12

During the 1970s, Canada also led industrial nations with respect to employment growth. The Canadian rate during that period was more than five times greater than the rates in Japan, Germany and Switzerland, and was twice those of the United Kingdom, France and Australia. Given the substantially lower rates of labour force growth in those countries, job creation was of significantly lower priority, and high rates of employment growth were not required to keep unemployment down.

The rate of employment growth in Canada decreased during the 1980s when it was surpassed by Iceland, Australia and Greece. Among the G7 nations, however, Canada still experienced the highest rate of employment growth.

TABLE 2.6: UNEMPLOYMENT
AVERAGE ANNUAL RATES
1974-1979 AND 1980-1989

Country	1974-1979	Rank	1980-1989	Rank
Ireland	7.6%	1	14.3%	2
Canada	**7.2%**	**2**	**9.3%**	**7**
United States	6.7%	3	7.2%	11
Italy	6.6%	4	9.9%	4
Portugal	6.0%	5	7.3%	10
Belgium	5.7%	6	11.1%	3
Spain	5.3%	7	17.5%	1
Australia	5.0%	8	7.5%	9
Netherlands	4.9%	9	9.8%	5
France	4.5%	10	9.0%	8
Finland	4.4%	11	4.9%	14
United Kingdom	4.2%	12	9.5%	6
Germany	3.5%	13	6.8%	12
Greece	1.9%	14	6.6%	13
Japan	1.9%	14	2.5%	17
Sweden	1.9%	14	2.5%	17
Norway	1.8%	15	2.8%	16
New Zealand	.8%	16	4.5%	15

The rapid rate of employment expansion which Canada experienced during the '70s did not keep pace with the even more rapid expansion of the labour force, and it ranked second, behind Ireland, in average unemployment rates during the period. The average rate increased into the 1980s but most industrial countries experienced increased unemployment during that period and Canada's ranking fell to seventh among the 18 nations for whom figures were available. Germany, Japan, Norway and Sweden managed to maintain relatively low unemployment rates throughout the period.

TABLE 2.7: UNEMPLOYMENT 1992

Country	1992	Rank
Spain	22.7%	1
Finland	18.2%	2
Ireland	17.6%	3
Belgium	12.1%	4
Denmark	12.1%	4
France	11.7%	5
Canada	**11.2%**	**6**
Australia	10.9%	7
United Kingdom	10.3%	8
Italy	10.2%	9
Greece	10.0%	10
New Zealand	9.8%	11
Germany	8.9%	12
Turkey	8.6%	13
Netherlands	8.3%	14
Sweden	8.2%	15
United States	6.9%	16
Norway	6.0%	17
Portugal	5.1%	18
Austria	4.8%	19
Switzerland	4.5%	20
Iceland	4.4%	21
Japan	2.5%	22
Luxembourg	2.2%	23

By 1992 Canada ranked sixth, as unemployment rates among most industrial nations increased with the recession. Only Austria, Switzerland, Iceland, Japan and Luxembourg managed to maintain unemployment rates of less then five percent during that period.

TABLE 2.8: INCIDENCE OF LONG-TERM UNEMPLOYMENT

UNEMPLOYED FOR MORE THAN 12 MONTHS AS A PERCENT OF TOTAL UNEMPLOYED

Country	%	Rank
Belgium	76	1
Italy	70	2
Ireland	67	3
Spain	59	4
Greece	52	5
Netherlands	50	6
Germany	49	7
France	44	8
United Kingdom	41	9
Luxembourg	29	10
Denmark	26	11
Australia	23	12
Japan	19	13
Austria	13	14
Norway	12	15
Finland	7	16
Sweden	7	16
Canada	**7**	**16**
US	6	17

Despite the relatively high levels of unemployment that have occured in Canada, the unemployment has traditionally been of a shorter duration. In 1989, for example, Canada reported the second smallest concentration of unemployed persons who had been unemployed for more than 12 months.

TABLE 2.9: SPENDING ON LABOUR MARKET PROGRAMS BY ALL LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT AS A PERCENTAGE OF GDP 1988

Country	% of GDP	Rank
Denmark	5.8	1
Ireland	4.3	2
Belgium	3.9	3
Spain	3.2	4
United Kingdom	2.8	5
New Zealand	2.6	6
Sweden	2.3	7
Germany	2.2	8
Canada	**2.1**	**9**
Norway	2.1	9
Finland	2.1	9
Italy	1.5	10
Austria	1.3	11
France	1.2	12
Luxembourg	1.1	13
US	.9	14
Greece	.9	14
Japan	.5	15
Switzerland	.3	16
Netheriands	.3	16
Australia	.2	17

Labour market program spending figures include spending on benefits, such as unemployment insurance, as well as other labour market interventions such as training.

Despite the relatively high levels of unemployment that marked the Canadian experience, Canada did not rank high on labour force spending by the public sector. Among the 17 national rankings, Canada ranked ninth in 1988.

3.0 WEALTH AND PRODUCTIVITY

OVERVIEW

Canada ranks as the second wealthiest nation among its industrial counterparts when differential costs of living are taken into account. It also possesses the second most productive economy, although other nations are going through a process of "catching up."

Despite the relatively high level of wealth in the Canadian economy, there is also a relatively high level of poverty due to the higher degree of inequality within the country's income distribution when compared to other industrial nations.

TABLE 3.1: GNP PER CAPITA AND REAL GDP PER CAPITA

1989

Country	GNP	Rank	Real GDP	Rank
Switzerland	29880	1	18590	3
Luxembourg	24980	2	16537	5
Japan	23810	3	14311	10
Norway	22290	4	16838	4
Finland	22120	5	14598	8
Sweden	21570	6	14817	7
Iceland	21070	7	14210	11
USA	20910	8	20998	1
Denmark	20450	9	13751	13
Germany	20440	10	14507	9
Canada	**19030**	**11**	**18635**	**2**
France	17820	12	14164	12
Austria	17300	13	13063	18
Belgium	16220	14	13313	17
Netherlands	15920	15	13351	16
Italy	15120	16	13608	15
UK	14610	17	13732	14
Australia	14360	18	15266	6
New Zealand	12070	19	11155	19
Spain	9330	20	8723	20
Ireland	8710	21	7481	21
Greece	5350	22	6764	22

The Gross National Product (GNP) is typically utilized as a measure of the size of a nation's economy, and the GNP per capita is used as a measure of national wealth. The problem with the latter measure is that it does not take into account differences in the cost of living between countries and, consequently, does not reflect the purchasing power which is evident in each country's GNP per capita. To correct this problem, an indicator called "purchasing power parity (PPP)" has been developed to reflect the differences in purchasing powers between countries. This indicator is then utilized to develop "Real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) Per Capita" indicators for countries, which more correctly allows for comparisons of national wealth by reflecting differences in purchasing power. This figure is typically interpreted to represent the "standard of living" within a nation.

With respect to GNP per capita in 1989, Canada maintained a mid-range position with a ranking of 11th among the 22 nations for whom figures were available. The Scandinavian countries, Switzerland, Japan, Germany and the USA all reported higher figures. When purchasing power is taken into account, however, Canada ranks second behind the USA. Japan, by contrast, falls from a number three ranking on GNP per capita to a 10th ranking because of the high cost of living in that country.

TABLE 3.2: REAL GDP PER CAPITA
1960 AND 1989

Country	1960	Rank	1989	Rank
USA	7380	1	20998	1
Switzerland	6830	2	18590	3
Luxembourg	6110	3	16537	5
Canada	**6070**	**4**	**18635**	**2**
New Zealand	5570	5	11155	19
Denmark	5490	6	13751	13
Germany	5220	7	14507	9
Australia	5180	8	15266	6
Sweden	5150	9	14817	7
Norway	5000	10	16838	4
United Kingdom	4970	11	13732	14
Netherlands	4690	12	13351	16
Iceland	4640	13	14210	11
France	4470	14	14164	12
Belgium	4380	15	13313	17
Finland	4070	16	14598	8
Austria	3910	17	13063	18
Italy	3230	18	13608	15
Ireland	2550	19	7481	21
Spain	2430	20	8723	20
Japan	2240	21	14311	10
Greece	1470	22	6764	22
Portugal	1430	23	6259	23

During the past 30 years, the standard of living in Canada, as measured by the real GDP per capita, increased at a faster rate than most other industrial countries and, as a consequence, Canada moved from a ranking of fourth to second between 1960 and 1989. The rankings of Norway, Finland and Japan improved dramatically during the period, while the rankings of New Zealand and Denmark fell markedly.

TABLE 3.3: GROWTH IN WORKER OUTPUT COMPARED TO THE UNITED STATES

Country	1950	1960	1970	1980	1990
United States	100	100	100	100	100
Canada	**77.1**	**80.1**	**84.2**	**92.8**	**95.5**
Italy	30.8	43.9	66.4	80.9	85.5
France	36.8	46.0	61.7	80.1	85.3
Germany	32.4	49.1	61.8	77.4	81.1
United Kingdom	53.9	54.3	58.0	65.9	71.9
Japan	15.2	23.2	45.7	62.6	70.7

Throughout the pre-war period, the United States has had the most productive economy in the world in terms of the growth in GNP per employed person, the standard measure of national economic productivity. The table above indicates the comparative performance of the six other largest economies relative to the USA. Canada has consistently maintained the second most productive economy during the period and, as with the other five nations, has consistently gained on the USA with respect to productivity levels. The other nations, however, have realized faster gains in productivity, and the gap between the countries has closed dramatically since the 1950s.

The Japanese economy has consistently been the least productive of the group. Although Japan leads the world in productivity in some sectors (e.g., electronics), other sectors of its economy have much lower levels of productivity and, overall, its level of performance is low.

TABLE 3.4: GROWTH IN REAL GDP PER PERSON EMPLOYED
AVERAGE ANNUAL GROWTH RATES

Country	1960-1968	Rank	1979-1989	Rank
Japan	8.5%	1	3.0%	2
Greece	8.3%	2	.6%	18
Italy	6.3%	3	2.1%	6
Portugal	6.1%	4	1.9%	9
Turkey	5.0%	5	2.5%	5
France	4.9%	6	2.0%	7
Austria	4.9%	7	1.1%	17
Germany	4.2%	8	1.6%	12
Ireland	4.1%	9	3.4%	1
Belgium	4.0%	10	2.0%	8
Finland	4.0%	11	2.8%	3
Sweden	3.9%	12	1.4%	13
Luxembourg	3.1%	13	1.7%	10
Denmark	3.0%	14	1.2%	14
United Kingdom	2.7%	15	1.7%	11
United States	2.6%	16	1.1%	15
Canada	**2.6%**	**17**	**1.2%**	**14**

With respect to actual gain in productivity, the USA and Canada have consistently ranked last among industrial nations, although they continue to have the most productive economies. Japan has consistently reported the greatest productivity gains throughout the period.

Most industrial nations provide 100% of their population with government funded hospital care. Only the USA provides less than half of its population with this service.

Canada is one of only four countries in which the citizens do not spend directly on health care--all basic costs are covered through the tax base and there are no user fees or special premiums. The proportion of income that citizens spend on health care ranged from a high of 11% in Portugal, to almost 9% in Norway, to zero in New Zealand, Canada, Denmark and Sweden.

TABLE 4.8: PERCENT OF PEOPLE WHO BELIEVE THEIR HEALTH CARE SYSTEM NEEDS FUNDAMENTAL CHANGE 1986

Country	%	Rank
United States	60	1
Sweden	58	2
United Kingdom	52	3
Japan	47	4
Italy	46	5
Netherlands	46	5
Australia	43	6
France	42	7
Canada	**38**	**8**

Among the nine nations for which figures are available, Canadians reported the highest level of satisfaction with their health care system, while Americans reported the lowest.

TABLE 4.7: PUBLIC HEALTH INSURANCE

Percent of Persons Eligible For Government Funded Hospital Care		Percent of Income Spent on Health Insurance		
Sweden	100	Portugal	11.0	
Canada	**100**	Norway	7.9	
Norway	100	Ireland	7.8	
Luxembourg	100	France	5.9	
Ireland	100	United Kingdom	5.0	
United Kingdom	100	Turkey	5.0	
Finland	100	Spain	4.8	
Australia	100	Netherlands	4.2	
New Zealand	100	Japan	4.2	
Italy	100	Germany	3.7	
Japan	100	Belgium	3.6	
Denmark	100	United States	2.7	
France	99	Austria	2.5	
Austria	99	Luxembourg	2.4	
Switzerland	98	Greece	2.3	
Spain	98	Iceland	2.0	
Belgium	98	Finland	1.7	
Germany	92	Australia	1.3	
Netherlands	77	Italy	.9	
United States	40	New Zealand	0	
		Denmark	0	
		Canada	**0**	
		Sweden	0	

Most industrial nations experienced an increase in the proportion of their Gross Domestic Product that they devoted to health care between 1960 and 1987. The only exceptions were Belgium and New Zealand--two countries that were already spending at a high rate in 1960. In 1960, Canada ranked third behind Belgium and new Zealand with an allocation of 5.5 %. By 1987, this had risen to 8.6% and it maintained a third-place ranking behind the USA and Sweden, as the rankings of Belgium and New Zealand dropped dramatically.

The rankings of Australia, the UK and Denmark also dropped substantially during the period. Through the time periods, Japan has devoted a relatively low proportion of its GDP to health care.

The relatively high expenditure level of Canada, despite the relatively low concentration of elderly persons in our population (see Table 1.5), is a primary reason for the growing concerns about health care expenditures. Canada will not attain the Swedish concentration of older persons for another three decades, but it is already very close to Sweden's level of health care spending.

TABLE 4.6: PRIVATE AND PUBLIC HEALTH EXPENDITURES AS A PERCENT OF GDP

Country	1960	Rank	1987	Rank
Belgium	7.2	1	7.2	11
New Zealand	6.9	2	6.9	13
Canada	**5.5**	**3**	**8.6**	**3**
USA	5.2	4	11.2	1
Sweden	4.7	5	9	2
Germany	4.7	5	8.2	6
Austria	4.6	6	8.4	5
Australia	4.6	6	7.1	12
France	4.2	7	8.6	3
Ireland	4.0	8	7.4	10
Netherlands	3.9	9	8.5	4
Finland	3.9	9	7.4	10
UK	3.9	9	6.1	15
Denmark	3.6	10	6.0	16
Iceland	3.5	11	7.8	7
Switzerland	3.3	12	7.7	8
Norway	3.3	12	7.5	9
Italy	3.3	12	6.9	13
Greece	3.2	13	5.3	17
Japan	2.9	14	6.8	14
Spain	2.3	15	6	16

TABLE 4.5: PROBABILITY OF DYING FROM CANCER, RESPIRATORY DISEASE OR HEART DISEASE

1985-1990

Cancer		Respiratory Disease		Heart Disease	
1 Netherlands	26.8	1 Japan	12.7	1 Sweden	38
2 Switzerland	24.8	2 UK	11.3	2 US	37
3 Denmark	24.4	3 Spain	9.9	2 USSR	37
4 France	24.0	**4 Canada**	**8.8**	3 Australia	35
4 UK	24.0	5 US	8.7	4 Germany	34
5 Canada	**23.7**	6 Netherlands	7.6	**5 Canada**	**33**
5 Germany	23.7	7 Italy	7.5	5 Denmark	33
6 Italy	22.2	7 Sweden	7.5	6 Switzerland	32
7 Austria	21.8	8 USSR	7.3	7 UK	31
8 Japan	21.2	9 Denmark	6.6	8 Netherlands	29
9 USA	21.1	9 France	6.6	9 Spain	25
10 Sweden	19.9	10 Switzerland	6.5	9 Italy	25
11 Spain	18.8	11 Austria	6.3	10 Japan	22
12 USSR	14.9	12 Germany	5.9	10 France	22

The probabilities of dying from three leading causes of death varied dramatically across the nations presented above. Canada had mid to high probabilities in all three areas. Japan, which ranked first on respiratory diseases, ranked relatively low on cancer and heart disease. The United States, on the other hand, ranked high on heart disease and relatively low on cancer.

TABLE 4.4: MATERNAL MORTALITY RATES 1987

DEATHS OF WOMEN FROM PREGNANCY-RELATED CAUSES PER 100,000 LIVE BIRTHS

Country	Rate	Rank
New Zealand	18	1
Japan	16	2
Finland	15	3
Netherlands	14	4
USA	13	5
France	13	5
UK	11	6
Austria	11	6
Germany	8	7
Canada	**7**	**8**
Sweden	7	8
Spain	7	8
Greece	7	8
Switzerland	6	9
Italy	6	9
Australia	5	10
Norway	4	11
Denmark	4	11
Belgium	4	11
Ireland	3	12
Iceland	2	13
Luxembourg	2	13

It is noteworthy that the rankings pertaining to maternal mortality are markedly different from those concerning child and infant mortality. This is particularly true of Japan which ranked second on maternal mortality in 1987 and Finland which ranked third, despite their low rankings on infant and child mortality rates. Canada again occupied a mid-range position while the countries with the lowest rates were Ireland, Iceland and Luxembourg.

TABLE 4.3: LOW BIRTH-WEIGHT BABIES AS A PERCENT OF TOTAL BIRTHS 1980-1988

Country	%	Rank
US	7	1
United Kingdom	7	1
Greece	6	2
Australia	6	2
Austria	6	2
Denmark	6	2
Germany	6	2
Canada	**6**	**2**
New Zealand	5	3
Belgium	5	3
France	5	3
Switzerland	5	3
Japan	5	3
Norway	4	4
Ireland	4	4
Finland	4	4
Sweden	4	4
Spain	1	5

The United States and the United Kingdom recorded the highest rate of low birth-weight babies. The 18 nations comprised only five ranks given the relative homogeneity of the rates, and Canada was in the second highest ranking group of nations.

TABLE 4.2: CHILD MORTALITY RATES
DEATHS OF CHILDREN AGED 0-5 PER 1000 LIVE BIRTHS

Country	1960	Rank	1990	Rank
Greece	64	1	11	2
Spain	57	2	10	3
Italy	50	3	10	3
Austria	43	4	9	4
Germany	40	5	9	4
Japan	39	6	6	6
Ireland	36	7	9	4
Belgium	35	8	9	4
France	34	9	9	4
Canada	**33**	**10**	**9**	**4**
USA	29	11	11	2
Finland	28	12	7	5
United Kingdom	27	13	9	4
Switzerland	26	14	9	4
New Zealand	26	14	12	1
Denmark	25	15	9	4
Australia	24	16	9	4
Norway	22	17	10	3
Netherlands	21	18	9	4
Sweden	20	19	7	5

The same trends were evident with respect to mortality rates for children aged five or less. There has been a substantial decrease in all industrial nations since 1960 and Canada has traditionally occupied a mid-range ranking on this indicator.

Japan, Sweden and Finland reported the lowest rates in 1990, while New Zealand, Greece and the United States reported the highest rates.

TABLE 4.1: INFANT MORTALITY RATES
INFANT DEATHS PER 1000 LIVE BIRTHS

Country	1960	Rank	1990	Rank
Greece	53	1	10	1
Spain	47	2	8	3
Italy	44	3	9	2
Austria	37	4	8	3
Germany	34	5	7	4
Ireland	31	6	8	3
Belgium	31	6	8	3
Japan	31	6	5	6
France	29	7	8	3
Canada	**28**	**8**	**7**	**4**
United States	26	9	9	2
New Zealand	23	10	10	1
United Kingdom	23	10	8	3
Switzerland	22	11	7	4
Denmark	22	11	8	3
Finland	22	11	6	5
Australia	21	12	8	3
Norway	19	13	8	3
Netherlands	17	14	7	4
Sweden	16	15	6	5

Infant mortality rates have fallen dramatically across all industrial nations since 1960, and the degree of disparity between the countries has diminished substantially. Rates ranged from 16 to 53 in 1960 and, by 1990, none of the nations exceeded a rate of 10. Canada has typically been in the mid-range of rankings in both time periods.

The countries with the lowest infant mortality rates in 1990 were Japan, Sweden and Finland. Greece, New Zealand, Italy and the USA reported the highest rates.

4.0 HEALTH
OVERVIEW

Canada has traditionally occupied a mid-range position among industrial nations with respect to infant, child and maternal mortality rates--three key measures of a nation's health status. It ranked somewhat higher on the incidence of low birth-weight infants.

Canada is one of only four nations in which basic health insurance costs are covered completely through government expenditures. It is typical of most other industrial nations in that 100% of its citizens are eligible for government-funded hospital care.

Government health expenditures as a percent of GDP have been relatively high in Canada for the past three decades. In both 1960 and 1987, Canada ranked third among 21 industrial nations in terms of the magnitude of its public allocation to health care.

The degree of equity in national income distributions is directly related to the degree of poverty in nations. Consequently, Canada also ranks relatively high with respect to the degree of child poverty in its country. Among the eight nations for which figures were available, Canada again ranked third, behind the USA and Australia.

TABLE 3.7: ATKINSON INEQUALITY INDEX

1980-1987

Country	Index	Rank
United States	99	1
Australia	87	2
Canada	**83**	**3**
Netherlands	82	4
Switzerland	79	5
United Kingdom	78	6
Germany	66	7
Norway	60	8
Sweden	60	8

The Atkinson Inequality Index is a derived statistic which places nations on a continuum with respect to income equality. On this scale, "100" is equivalent to "most inequitable" while "0" is equivalent to total equity. For the eight nations reported above, Canada ranked third, with respect to inequality, behind the USA and Australia.

TABLE 3.8: PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN BELOW THE POVERTY LINE

Country	%	Rank
United States	22.4	1
Australia	15.9	2
Canada	**15.5**	**3**
United Kingdom	9.3	4
Switzerland	7.8	5
Sweden	5.0	6
Germany	4.9	7
Norway	4.8	8

TABLE 3.6: INCOME RATIO OF HIGHEST TWENTY PERCENT TO LOWEST TWENTY PERCENT 1980-1988

Country	Ratio	Rank
Australia	9.6	1
United States	8.9	2
New Zealand	8.8	3
Switzerland	8.6	4
Canada	**7.1**	**5**
Denmark	7.1	5
United Kingdom	6.8	6
France	6.5	7
Italy	6.0	8
Finland	6.0	8
Norway	5.9	9
Spain	5.8	10
Germany	5.7	11
Netherlands	5.6	12
Belgium	4.6	13
Sweden	4.6	13
Japan	4.3	14

A second measure of income distribution is the ratio of the incomes attained by the top 20% of income earners to the bottom 20%. The higher the ratio, the greater the degree of income inequality. In Australia, for example, the top 20% controlled almost 10 times more income than the lowest 20%. At the other end of the spectrum, the wealthiest Japanese people controlled only 4.3 times more income than the least wealthy.

Canada ranked fifth out of 14 rankings in terms of the degree of inequality in its income distribution.

Figures relating to standards of living for nations reflect national averages and do not provide information about the actual distribution of wealth within nations. One measure of distribution is presented in the table above--the proportion of the national income which is possessed by the lowest 40% of households. The higher the percentage, the more equal the distribution of income.

In Japan, for example, the lowest 40% of households controlled almost 22% of the nation's income. In Canada, they controlled only 17.5%, and in the USA, they controlled only 15.7%.

Although Canada and the USA had the highest standards of living overall and the most productive economies, the wealth in these two countries is distributed less equitably than in many nations. Based upon this measure, Japan, Belgium, Sweden, the Netherlands and Germany had the most equitable distributions of income, while Australia, USA, New Zealand, Switzerland and the United Kingdom had the least equitable. Canada ranked 10th out of 16 on this measure.

TABLE 3.5: INCOME SHARE OF THE LOWEST FORTY PERCENT OF HOUSEHOLDS 1980-1988

Country	Share	Rank
Japan	21.9%	1
Belgium	21.6%	2
Sweden	21.2%	3
Netherlands	20.1%	4
Germany	19.5%	5
Spain	19.4%	6
Norway	19.0%	7
Italy	18.8%	8
Finland	18.4%	9
France	18.4%	9
Canada	**17.5%**	**10**
Denmark	17.4%	11
United Kingdom	17.3%	12
Switzerland	16.9%	13
New Zealand	15.9%	14
United States	15.7%	15
Australia	15.5%	16

5.0 EDUCATION

OVERVIEW

Canada ranks second to the USA with respect to the average years of education attained by the adult population. This is primarily due to the high rates of enrollment in post-secondary institutions which have been typical of Canada during the past three decades. Enrollments by children in pre-school programs, however, have been relatively low in Canada.

Although Canadian Government expenditures on education increased less rapidly in the '80s than in the latter half of the '70s, Canada moved to a ranking of third during the mid-'80s with respect to public allocations for education as a percentage of GDP. In 1960, Canada occupied a fifth-place ranking.

TABLE 5.1: AVERAGE YEARS OF EDUCATION FOR POPULATION AGED TWENTY-FIVE AND OVER

1990

Country	Average	Rank
USA	12.3	1
Canada	**12.1**	**2**
Norway	11.6	3
France	11.6	3
Australia	11.5	4
United Kingdom	11.5	4
Germany	11.1	5
Austria	11.1	5
Switzerland	11.1	5
Sweden	11.1	5
Belgium	10.7	6
Japan	10.7	6
Finland	10.6	7
Netherlands	10.6	7
Denmark	10.4	8
New Zealand	10.4	8
Iceland	8.9	9
Ireland	8.7	10
Luxembourg	8.4	11
Italy	7.3	12
Greece	6.9	13
Spain	6.8	14

Canada possesses a highly educated population with respect to the average level of education for adults. In 1990, the average adult Canadian had completed 12 years of completed education, ranking second to the United States. The majority of the nations reported averages between 10 and 12 years, with Greece, Spain and Italy reporting average levels of attainment of less than eight years.

TABLE 5.2: POST-SECONDARY ENROLLMENT RATIO
1965 AND 1989

Country	1965	Rank	1989	Rank
USA	40	1	63	2
Canada	**26**	**2**	**66**	**1**
France	18	3	37	5
Netherlands	17	4	35	7
Australia	16	5	32	9
Belgium	15	6	34	8
New Zealand	15	6	41	4
Denmark	14	7	32	9
Sweden	13	8	31	10
Japan	13	8	31	10
United Kingdom	12	9	24	15
Ireland	12	9	26	13
Finland	11	10	43	3
Germany	11	10	34	8
Italy	11	10	29	11
Norway	11	10	36	6
Greece	10	11	28	12
Austria	9	12	31	10
Switzerland	8	13	26	13
Spain	6	14	32	9

In 1965, 26% of Canadian students enrolled in some form of post-secondary education, ranking second behind the US with respect to the proportion of students who proceeded to post-secondary levels. By 1989, this number had increased to 66% with Canada surpassomg the USA to rank first among industrial nations.

All industrial nations experienced a dramatic increase in post-secondary enrollments during this period.

TABLE 5.3: PERCENTAGE OF FOUR-YEAR OLD CHILDREN IN PRESCHOOL 1987-1990

Country	%	Rank
France	100	1
Belgium	98.1	2
Netherlands	97.9	3
Spain	90.6	4
New Zealand	72.8	5
Germany	71.6	6
United Kingdom	69.2	7
Austria	63.4	8
Japan	54.6	9
Ireland	52.1	10
US	49.0	11
Norway	44.1	12
Greece	43.2	13
Canada	**41.1**	**14**
Finland	19.6	15
Switzerland	18.7	16

At the other end of the age spectrum, Canadians had fairly low enrolment levels in preschools for four year olds, relative to other nations for which statistics are available. Approximately 41% of Canadian four-year-olds were enrolled in pre-school and, of the 16 nations, only Finland and Switzerland reported lower enrollment levels. In four countries--France, Belgium, the Netherlands and Spain--over 90% of the children in that age group were enrolled in pre-school programs.

TABLE 5.4: EDUCATIONAL EXPENDITURES AS A PERCENTAGE OF GDP 1960 AND 1986

Country	1960	Rank	1986	Rank
Sweden	5.9	1	7.5	1
US	5.3	2	6.8	4
Japan	4.9	3	6.5	8
Netherlands	4.9	3	6.8	5
Finland	4.9	3	5.7	11
Belgium	4.8	4	5.4	12
Canada	**4.6**	**5**	**7.2**	**3**
Norway	4.6	5	6.7	7
Italy	4.2	6	3.9	17
Denmark	4.0	7	7.3	2
France	3.6	8	6.6	7
United Kingdom	3.4	9	5.0	14
Switzerland	3.3	10	5.2	13
Ireland	3.0	11	6.2	9
Austria	2.9	12	6.0	10
Germany	2.4	13	4.5	16
New Zealand	2.2	14	4.9	15
Greece	2.0	15	3.1	19
Spain	1.1	16	3.2	18

Educational expenditures as a proportion of GDP increased in all industrial nations between 1960 and 1986. In 1960, Canadian expenditures amounted to 4.6% of GDP, and the country ranked fifth among the group of 19 nations for which figures were available. By 1986, the figure had increased to 7.2% of GDP, and the ranking had risen to third, behind Sweden and Denmark.

The USA, by contrast, had ranked second in 1960, and had fallen to a fourth place ranking in 1986. The countries which allocated the smallest proportions of their GDPs to education in 1986 were Italy, Greece, Spain and Germany.

TABLE 5.5: AVERAGE ANNUAL CHANGE IN EDUCATION EXPENDITURES 1975 TO 1980 AND 1980 TO 1988

Country	1975-1980	Rank	1980-1988	Rank
Japan	5.2%		-1.7%	14
Sweden	4.1%		-.3%	11
Switzerland	4.1%		3.5%	4
Canada	**3.7%**		**1.8%**	**8**
Ireland	2.3%		-.8%	12
Greece	2.1%		.8%	9
Austria	1.6%		3.9%	3
Italy	1.3%		3.2%	5
Netherlands	1.1%		.2%	10
Australia	1.1%		.8%	9
USA	.6%		4.2%	2
France	.4%		1.9%	7
Norway	-.1%		2.3%	6
United Kingdom	-2.5%		-1.8%	15
Denmark	-5.1%		-1.4%	13

For most industrial countries, educational expenditures grew more rapidly in the '70s than during the '80s. The major exceptions to this trend were the USA, France, Italy and Austria. Two countries, the UK and Denmark, showed reduced spending in both periods. Three countries–Japan, Sweden and Ireland–reported reductions in the 1980s.

During the latter half of the '70s, Canada ranked fourth in terms of the rate of education expenditure increase, and this rate was almost cut in half during the '80s when the ranking fell to eighth.

6.0 PUBLIC SECURITY

OVERVIEW

Relative to other industrial countries, Canada ranked relatively high on the incidence of homicides, reported rapes, armed robbery and breaking/entering.

It was in the mid-range with respect to the rate at which crimes are reported to the police, and it had a low per capita presence of police officers.

TABLE 6.1: DEATH BY HOMICIDE AND SUICIDE

Suicides per 100,000 1987-88			Homicides per 100,000 1987-88		
Country	**Rate**	**Rank**	**Country**	**Rate**	**Rank**
Finland	28.2	1	US	9.0	1
Austria	27.9	2	Denmark	5.0	2
France	22.9	3	Sweden	5.0	2
Belgium	22.5	4	Finland	2.7	3
Sweden	20.5	5	New Zealand	2.2	4
Luxembourg	20.1	6	Belgium	2.2	4
Japan	19.7	7	**Canada**	**2.1**	**5**
Germany	19.3	8	Australia	2.0	6
Canada	**14.6**	**9**	Norway	1.6	7
Iceland	14.6	9	Luxembourg	1.6	7
Norway	14.0	10	Italy	1.5	8
USA	13.0	11	Austria	1.3	9
New Zealand	12.7	12	France	1.2	10
Australia	12.4	13	Spain	1.2	10
Netherlands	11.1	14	Germany	1.1	11
Italy	8.5	15	Netherlands	1.1	11
UK	8.2	16	United Kingdom	1.0	12
Ireland	8.0	17	Greece	1.0	12
Spain	6.6	18	Japan	.8	13
Greece	4.0	19			

With respect to reported suicides, Canada has traditionally occupied a mid-range position among industrial countries. Comparative figures relating to suicide must be interpreted with caution because of unknown differences in reporting rates among countries. Countries with strong legal, moral or religious prohibitions of suicide tend to have lower reported rates, although it is not clear whether this is due to actual differences or different reporting procedures.

Canada has traditionally ranked in the upper mid-range on the incidence of homicides. The USA and Scandinavian countries report the highest rates, while Japan, Greece, the United Kingdom, the Netherlands and Germany have traditionally low rates.

TABLE 6.2: REPORTED RAPES PER 100,000 WOMEN AGED 15 TO 64 1980-1985

Country	Rate	Rank
USA	114	1
Netherlands	92	2
Finland	40	3
Sweden	34	4
Canada	**30**	**5**
New Zealand	24	6
Denmark	20	7
France	11	8
Norway	10	9
Italy	10	9
UK	9	10
Spain	8	11
Japan	7	12

The reporting rates for rape are believed to differ widely from country to country and consequently, the above figures cannot be used as indicators of the actual extent of sexual violence in countries. They simply reflect the frequency of reported rapes.

On this indicator, Canada ranked fifth among the 13 nations. The USA and the Netherlands reported the highest rates, while Japan, Spain and the United Kingdom reported the lowest incidence.

TABLE 6.3: RATES OF ARMED ROBBERY AND BREAKING/ENTERING 1987-1990

Armed Robbery/100,000			Breaking & Entering/100,000		
Spain	265	1	Denmark	2412	1
USA	221	2	Australia	1962	2
Canada	**94**	**3**	Germany	1918	3
France	90	4	United Kingdom	1627	4
Belgium	66	5	Sweden	1555	5
UK	63	6	**Canada**	**1386**	**6**
Australia	52	7	United States	1309	7
Italy	50	8	Spain	1232	8
Sweden	49	9	Finland	1008	9
Germany	47	10	Luxembourg	984	10
Ireland	46	11	Switzerland	976	11
Denmark	44	12	Austria	910	12
Finland	38	13	Ireland	855	13
Switzerland	23	14	France	674	14
Norway	22	15	Belgium	623	15
Greece	7	16	Greece	257	16
Japan	1	17	Japan	211	17
			Norway	93	18

Canada ranked relatively high for incidences of armed robbery, and in the upper mid-range with respect to breaks and enters.

Spain and the United States reported armed robbery rates which were far in excess of all other countries, while Greece and Japan reported remarkably low rates.

The pattern at the high end for break and enters was quite different from armed robberies--Denmark, Australia, Germany and the United Kingdom reported the highest rates while both the USA and Spain dropped in rank. At the low end, however, the pattern remained the same--Greece, Japan and Norway reported the lowest rates.

TABLE 6.4: POLICE STRENGTH AND THE INCIDENCE OF OFFENCE REPORTING

% Reported to Police 1986			People per Police Officers 1989		
France	61	1	Spain	862	1
United Kingdom	60	2	Norway	661	2
Netherlands	59	3	Finland	643	3
Switzerland	58	4	New Zealand	642	4
United States	58	4	France	632	5
Germany	56	5	Portugal	624	6
Canada	**55**	**6**	Denmark	594	7
Belgium	54	7	Belgium	586	8
Australia	51	8	Japan	556	9
Finland	45	9	Netherlands	553	10
Norway	43	10	Ireland	489	11
Spain	34	11	Austria	466	12
			Australia	462	13
			United States	459	14
			Luxembourg	435	15
			United Kingdom	400	16
			Canada	**358**	**17**
			Sweden	328	18
			Greece	303	19
			Italy	286	20

The rate at which crimes are reported to police did not vary dramatically among most of the nations for which statistics were available. France and the United Kingdom reported the highest rates, while Norway and Spain reported the lowest. Canada was at the mid-range.

The incidence of police officers varied dramatically between countries, with Spain, Norway and Finland reporting figures which were two to three times higher than Italy, Greece, Sweden and Canada. Canada ranked 17th out of 20 on this dimension.

7.0 PUBLIC FINANCE
OVERVIEW

During the 1980s, the public debt in Canada increased to a magnitude which was unusually high by international standards.

With respect to overall government expenditures as a proportion of Gross Domestic Product, Canada occupied a mid-range position throughout the past three decades. However, in specific areas of government activity such as education and health, expenditures were at a relatively high level in comparison with other industrial nations.

These higher level expenditure areas were offset, to some degree, by relatively lower levels of spending on income transfer programs--a trend which kept overall expenditures in the mid-range.

The tax burden in Canada, as measured by current receipts, was at the low end of the mid-range. The gap between "mid-range expenditures" and "lower mid-range revenues" resulted in an accumulating debt in Canada which grew large by international standards.

The magnitude of this debt, in turn, became an expenditure problem when debt repayment costs, as a proportion of GDP, approached the upper end of the international continuum.

TABLE 7.1: GOVERNMENT OUTLAYS AS A PERCENTAGE OF GDP

Country	1960-1967	Rank	1980-1989	Rank
Netherlands	37.8	1	59.6	2
Austria	37.6	2	51	4
France	37.4	3	50.3	5
Germany	35.7	4	47.6	8
Sweden	34.8	5	62.8	1
United Kingdom	34.7	6	44.9	10
Norway	32.8	7	48.8	6
Italy	31.9	8	48.7	7
Canada	**29.3**	**9**	**45.0**	**9**
Finland	29.3	9	39.8	12
Denmark	29.1	10	58.9	3
Australia	28.3	11	36.6	13
US	28.3	11	36	14
Iceland	27.3	12	34.9	15
Greece	19.7	13	40.6	11
Switzerland	19.0	14	30.3	17
Japan	18.7	15	33.2	16

Government outlays represent the total expenditures of all levels of government in each nation. The magnitude of government expenditures as a percentage of Gross Domestic Product increased in all industrial nations between 1960 and 1990. In Canada, during the 1960s, government expenditures amounted to 29% of the GDP, representing a mid-range level of expenditure among industrial nations. By the 1980s, this had increased to 45%, although Canada remained in the mid-range level with the unchanged ranking of ninth.

During the 1980s Sweden, the Netherlands, Denmark, Austria and France all reported outlays in excess of fifty percent of their GDP. At the lower end, Switzerland, Japan and Iceland reported levels ranging from 30% to 35%.

TABLE 7.2: DISBURSEMENTS AS A PERCENTAGE OF GDP

Country	1960-1967	Rank	1980-1989	Rank
France	33.0	1	46.8	5
Netherlands	32.3	2	54.5	3
United Kingdom	30.8	3	42.0	10
Austria	30.8	3	45.4	7
Germany	30.2	4	43.5	9
Sweden	29.4	5	59.1	1
Belgium	29.1	6	50.8	4
Norway	29.0	7	45.5	6
Italy	28.2	8	44.2	8
United States	25.8	9	34.7	14
Canada	**25.4**	**10**	**41.8**	**11**
Denmark	25.1	11	55.9	2
Finland	24.3	12	35.9	13
Australia	23.4	13	33.7	15
Iceland	21.3	14	28.1	17
Greece	19.7	15	40.6	12
Switzerland	19.0	16	30.3	16
Japan	13.5	17	26.7	18

Current disbursements refer to all expenditures by all levels of government, excluding expenditures for the purpose of purchasing land, capital and other assets. It includes all program spending, all administrative spending and interest on the public debt.

As with total outlays, expenditures for all national governments increased between 1960 and 1990. Canadian government disbursements during the '60s accounted for 25% of the GDP and increased to almost 42% during the '80s. Canada's ranking among the 18 nations dropped one point during that time--from 10th to 11th. Canada again occupied a mid-range with respect to its level of government expenditure.

TABLE 7.3: SOCIAL SECURITY EXPENDITURES AS A PERCENTAGE OF GDP

Country	1960-1967	Rank	1980-1989	Rank
France	15.5	1	21.3	2
Austria	14.3	2	20.1	3
Germany	12.4	3	16.5	7
Belgium	11.8	4	21.7	1
Italy	11.1	5	16.7	6
Sweden	8.8	6	18.4	4
Denmark	8.2	7	17.1	5
Iceland	7.5	8	4.8	16
United Kingdom	7.3	9	13.2	10
Canada	**6.6**	**10**	**11.6**	**11**
Switzerland	6.5	11	13.4	9
Greece	6.5	11	13.6	8
Finland	6.0	12	9.9	14
Australia	5.5	13	9.2	15
United States	5.4	14	11.1	12
Japan	4.2	15	11.1	13

Social security expenditures represent one component of current disbursements and include government - paid sick/disability benefits, old age benefits, family allowances, social assistance grants and all other social security payments.

All governments, with the exception of Iceland, increased their social security expenditures as a proportion of GDP between 1960 and 1990. Canadian levels increased from 6.6% of GDP in the '60s to 11.6% in the '80s, occupying a position at the low end of the mid-range. In many countries, the largest share of social security expenditures was public pensions, and Canada's relatively low concentration of elderly persons resulted in relatively low pension commitments compared to many other nations.

In 1990, Belgium, France, Austria, Sweden and Denmark were at the high end of the expenditure continuum, devoting between 50 and 100% more of their GDP to these expenditures than Canada. By way of contrast, Iceland, Finland and Australia devoted less than 10% of their GDP's to social security purposes.

TABLE 7.4: CURRENT DISBURSEMENTS BY FUNCTION AS A PERCENTAGE OF GDP

1990

Government Consumption			Transfers to Persons		
Sweden	27.3	1	Netherlands	29.1	1
Denmark	24.7	2	Belgium	24.8	2
Greece	21.9	3	France	23.5	3
Norway	21.1	4	Sweden	21.2	4
Finland	21.0	5	Norway	20.7	5
United Kingdom	20.0	6	Denmark	20.5	6
Canada	**19.7**	**7**	Austria	19.8	7
Portugal	19.7	7	Germany	19.3	8
Iceland	19.3	8	Italy	18.9	9
Germany	18.5	9	Ireland	16.4	10
US	18.3	10	Greece	16.1	11
France	18.3	10	Spain	16.1	11
Austria	17.6	11	Switzerland	13.9	12
Italy	17.4	12	United Kingdom	13.7	13
Australia	17.3	13	**Canada**	**12.8**	**14**
Netherlands	14.9	14	Finland	12.1	15
Turkey	14.8	15	US	11.5	16
Ireland	14.6	16	Japan	11.2	17
Belgium	14.2	17	Australia	10.9	18
Spain	14.2	17	Portugal	10.5	19
Switzerland	12.4	18	Turkey	7.0	20
Japan	9.0	19	Iceland	6.0	21

In National Accounts Terms, government disbursements are classified into a number of subcategories. The largest category, "government consumption", refers to all funds utilized by government in administration and program delivery. It is differentiated from "transfers to persons" which cover all income transfer programs such as pensions, welfare and unemployment insurance. The other major areas under current disbursements are "subsidies", primarily to businesses, agriculture, and debt repayment.

With respect to government consumption, Canada ranked relatively high among the 22 nations. It ranked seventh behind the Scandinavian countries, Greece and the United Kingdom. This category of expenditure would include health and educational expenditures-- two specific areas where Canada ranks relatively high (See Tables 4.5 and 5.4).

The situation was quite different with respect to income transfer programs. In this case, Canada ranked quite low--fourteenth out of the 22 nations--with an allocation that was half that of the Netherlands and Belgium, and only slightly above that of the USA and Japan.

TABLE 7.5: CURRENT DISBURSEMENTS BY FUNCTION AS A PERCENTAGE OF GDP

1990

Subsidies			Debt Payments		
Norway	6.0	1	Greece	11.2	1
Sweden	4.8	2	Belgium	10.7	2
Ireland	4.4	3	Italy	9.7	3
Iceland	3.1	4	**Canada**	**9.4**	**4**
Denmark	3.0	5	Portugal	8.8	5
Belgium	2.9	6	Ireland	8.0	6
Finland	2.8	7	Denmark	7.2	7
Italy	2.2	8	Netherlands	6.7	8
Germany	1.9	9	Sweden	5.8	9
Greece	1.8	10	US	5.2	10
Canada	**1.7**	**11**	Australia	4.4	11
Spain	1.6	12	Austria	4.0	12
France	1.6	12	Norway	3.9	13
Netherlands	1.6	12	Iceland	3.8	14
Portugal	1.5	13	Japan	3.8	14
Switzerland	1.3	14	Spain	3.6	15
United Kingdom	1.1	15	UK	3.4	16
Austria	.9	16	France	3.1	17
Australia	.9	16	Germany	2.6	18
Japan	.7	17	Switzerland	1.3	19
US	.2	18	Finland	1.3	19

Canada ranked in the mid-range with respect to allocations for subsidies to business and farm enterprises. The Scandinavian countries, Ireland and some European countries allocated higher levels of expenditure to this function than did Canada, while the USA, Japan, Austria and Australia allocated the least.

Canada ranked very high on expenditures for debt repayment, ranking fourth behind Greece, Belgium and Italy. In 1990, Canada's government payments, amounted to over 9% of its GDP.

TABLE 7.6: CURRENT RECEIPTS OF GOVERNMENT AS A PERCENTAGE OF GDP

Country	1960-1967	Rank	1980-1989	Rank
Austria	37.4	1	47.3	5
Sweden	37.3	2	59.9	1
France	37.2	3	46.5	6
Netherlands	36.4	4	53.3	4
Norway	36.2	5	53.5	3
Germany	36.1	6	44.9	7
United Kingdom	32.5	7	41.3	8
Finland	30.8	8	38.9	9
Iceland	30.3	9	33.9	12
Denmark	30.1	10	55.4	2
Italy	29.7	11	37.5	10
Canada	**27.2**	**12**	**38.9**	**9**
United States	26.5	13	31.3	15
Australia	24.6	14	33.2	14
Greece	23.6	15	33.3	13
Switzerland	23.6	15	34.1	11
Japan	19.3	16	31.1	16

"Current Receipts" include all tax-based revenues to all levels of government. This includes direct and indirect taxes as well as social security contributions paid by employers or employees.

As with the expenditure side of the equation, taxation receipts have risen as a percentage of GDP in all industrial nations. During the 1980s, Sweden, Denmark, Norway, the Netherlands and Austria reported the highest revenue rates while Japan, Australia, USA and Greece reported the lowest. During both time periods, Canada was at the low end of the mid-range, occupying a rank of 12th out of 16 in the '60s and a ranking of ninth in the '80s.

TABLE 7.7: CURRENT RECEIPTS AND TOTAL OUTLAYS AS A PERCENTAGE OF GDP 1993

Current Receipts			Total Outlays		
Country	%	Rank	Country	%	Rank
Sweden	58.3	1	Sweden	71.3	1
Denmark	57.7	2	Denmark	62.3	2
Norway	54.4	3	Finland	62.5	3
Finland	53.7	4	Belgium	58.4	4
Netherlands	52.9	5	Norway	57.1	5
Belgium	51.2	6	Italy	56.2	6
France	49.0	7	Netherlands	55.8	7
Austria	48.8	8	France	54.9	8
Italy	46.7	9	Portugal	52.8	9
Germany	46.7	9	Greece	52.7	10
Portugal	45.5	10	Austria	51.7	11
Canada	**42.8**	**11**	Germany	50.0	12
Ireland	41.7	12	**Canada**	**49.6**	**13**
Greece	39.8	13	Spain	46.9	14
Spain	39.8	13	Ireland	44.2	15
United Kingdom	35.8	14	United Kingdom	43.5	16
Japan	34.3	15	United States	34.4	17
US	30.9	16	Japan	34.0	18

By 1993, current taxation receipts to all levels of government in Canada had reached 42.8% of GDP, and Total Outlays had attained a level of 49.9%. Canada continued to rank in the lower mid-range among industrial nations on both of these measures.

TABLE 7.8: PUBLIC SECTOR DEFICITS AS A PERCENTAGE OF GDP
AVERAGE ANNUAL DEFICITS

Country	1960-1967	Rank	1980-1987	Rank
Italy	-1.8	1	11.0	1
United Kingdom	-1.1	2	-2.4	7
Canada	**-.8**	**3**	**-4.6**	**3**
Netherlands	-.7	4	-5.7	2
US	-.6	5	-3.4	4
France	.5	6	-2.1	9
Austria	.6	7	-3.0	5
Germany	.8	8	-2.1	8
Japan	1.0	9	-1.8	10
Denmark	1.5	10	-2.7	6
Finland	2.3	11	.3	13
Sweden	3.3	12	-1.6	11
Norway	4.4	13	5.5	14

During the 1960s, 8 of the 13 nations for which comparative figures were available maintained surpluses in their national accounts. Canada was one of five nations that averaged deficits during the period, and among the 13 nations, it ranked third with respect to the size of its average annual deficit.

During the 1980s, only two countries continued to run surpluses--Finland and Norway--as the frequency of debt financing by national governments increased. Canada's average deficit increased from .8% of GDP during the 1960s to 4.6% during the '80s and it maintained its third place ranking among the reporting nations.

TABLE 7.9: NET GENERAL GOVERNMENT DEBT AS A PERCENTAGE OF GDP AND INTEREST PAYMENTS AS A PERCENTAGE OF EXPENDITURES

1993

Net Debt			Interest Payments		
Country	%	Rank	Country	%	Rank
Belgium	132.3	1	Greece	25.0	1
Italy	112.6	2	Italy	20.4	2
Canada	**61.9**	**3**	Belgium	17.2	3
Netherlands	59.6	4	Portugal	14.1	4
portugal	42.3	5	Ireland	11.4	5
United Kingdom	41.2	6	**Canada**	**10.3**	6
US	39.3	7	Spain	10.0	7
France	35.7	8	Netherlands	8.4	8
Denmark	33.0	9	Austria	7.2	9
Germany	31.8	10	Germany	6.4	10
Australia	20.0	11	US	5.7	11
Sweden	19.6	12	France	5.7	12
Japan	5.3	13	United Kingdom	5.0	13
Norway	-14.7	14	Denmark	4.6	14
Finland	-17.2	15	Australia	3.3	15
			Japan	.8	16
			Sweden	.7	17
			Finland	-.3	18
			Norway	-1.5	

Although Canada ranked in the lower mid-range with respect to government receipts and expenditures among industrial nations, the size of the gap between receipts and expenditures was larger than in most other countries. As a consequence, Canada ranked high in 1993 with respect to the size of its net debt, relative to GDP and the proportion of government expenditures which were required to service the debt.

With respect to net debt, Canada ranked behind Belgium and Italy--in these two countries the debt actually exceeded the nations GDP. At the other end of the spectrum, Norway and Finland possessed sizeable surpluses in their national accounts.

In 1993, just over 10% of all government expenditures in Canada were devoted to interest payments on public debt. Canada ranked behind Greece, Italy, Belgium, Portugal and Ireland with respect to the proportion of public expenditures allocated to this function. Japan and Sweden, on the other hand, devoted less than one percent to this function, while Finland and Norway realized returns on their surpluses.

8.0 CONCLUDING OVERVIEW - CANADA'S RANKING BY SUBJECT

POPULATION AND DEMOGRAPHICS

1.1 **Population growth rates** (1990-2000) - ranked **5th** out of 18 rankings
1.2 **Fertility rates** (1990) - ranked **5th** out of 8 rankings
1.3 **Life expectancy at birth** (1990) - ranked **6th** out of 19 rankings
1.4 **Percentage of the population aged 15 and less** (1989) - ranked **6th** out of 22 rankings
1.5 **Percentage of the population aged 65 and over** (1989) - ranked **13th** out of 21 rankings
1.6 **Dependency ratio** (1990) - ranked **17th** out of 11 rankings

LABOUR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT

2.1 **Labour force growth** (1980-1989) - ranked **1st** out of 17 rankings
2.2 **Growth in the working age population, 16 to 64** (1980-1989) - ranked **4th** out of 12 rankings
2.3 **Growth in female labour force** (1980-1989) - ranked **13th** out of 16 rankings
2.4 **Females as a percentage of the labour force** (1980-1989) - ranked **5th** out of 20 rankings
2.5 **Employment growth** (1979-1989) - ranked **4th** out of 16 rankings
2.6 **Unemployment rates** (1980-1989) - ranked **7th** out of 18 rankings
2.7 **Unemployment in 1992** - ranked **6th** out of 23 rankings
2.8 **Incidence of long-term (12+ months) unemployment** (1989) - ranked **16th** out of 17 rankings
2.9 **Spending on all labour market programs** (1988) - ranked **9th** out of 17 rankings

WEALTH AND PRODUCTIVITY

3.1 **GNP per capita** (1989) - ranked **11th** out of 22 rankings
3.2 **Real GDP per capita** (1989) - ranked **2nd** out of 22 rankings
3.3 **Growth in real GDP per person employed** (1979-1989) - ranked **14th** out of 18 rankings
3.4 **Income share of the lowest 40% of household** (1980-1988) - ranked **10th** out of 16 rankings
3.5 **Income ratio of highest 20% to lowest 20%** (1980-1988) - ranked **5th** out of 14 rankings

3.6 **Atkinson inequality index** (1980-1987) - ranked **3rd** out of 8 rankings

3.7 **Percentage of children below the poverty line** (1980-1987) - ranked **3rd** out of 8 rankings

HEALTH

4.1 **Infant mortality rates** (1990) - ranked **4th** out of 6 rankings

4.2 **Child (0-5) mortality rates** (1990) - ranked **4th** out of 6 rankings

4.3 **Low birth weight babies** (1980-1988) - ranked **2nd** out of 5 rankings

4.4 **Maternal mortality rates** (1987) - ranked **8th** out of 13 rankings

4.5 **Probability of dying from cancer** (1985-1990) - ranked **5th** out of 12 rankings

4.6 **Probability of dying from respiratory disease** (1985-1900) - ranked **4th** out of 12 rankings

4.7 **Probability of dying from heart disease** (1985-1990) - ranked **5th** out of 10 rankings

4.8 **Private and public expenditures as a percent of GDP** (1987) - ranked **3rd** out of 17 rankings

4.9 **Percentage of persons eligible for government funded hospital care** - ranked **1st** out of 6 rankings

4.10 **Percentage of income spent on health insurance** - ranked **18th** out of 18 rankings

4.11 **Percentage of people who believe their health care system needs fundamental change** (1986) - ranked **8th** out of 8 rankings

EDUCATION

5.I **Average years of education for population aged 25+** (1990) - ranked **2nd** out of 14 rankings

5.2 **Post-secondary enrolment ratio** (1989) - ranked **1st** out of 15 rankings

5.3 **Percentage of four-year-old children in preschool** (1987-1990) - ranked **14th** out of 16 rankings

5.4 **Educational expenditures as a percentage of GDP** (1986) - ranked **3rd** out of 19 rankings

5.5 **Average annual change in education expenditures** (1980-1988) - ranked **8th** out of 15 rankings

PUBLIC SECURITY

6.1 **Death by suicide** (1987-1988) - ranked **9th** out of 19 rankings

6.2 **Death by homicide** (1987-1988) - ranked **5th** out of 13 rankings

6.3 **Reported rapes per 100,000 women aged 15 to 64** (1980-1985) - ranked **5th** out of 12 rankings

6.4 **Rates of armed robberies** (1987-1990) - ranked **3rd** out of 17 rankings

6.5 **Rates of breaking and entering** (1987-1990) - ranked **6th** out of 18 rankings

6.6 **Percentage of offences reported to police** (1986) - ranked **6th** out of 11 rankings

6.7 **Number of people per police officers** (1989) - ranked **17th** out of 20 rankings

PUBLIC FINANCE

7.1 **Government outlays as a percentage of GDP** (1980-1989) - ranked **9th** out of 17 rankings

7.2 **Disbursement as a percentage of GDP** (1980-1989) - ranked **11th** out of 18 rankings

7.3 **Social security expenditures as a percentage of GDP** (1980-1989) - ranked **11th** out of 16 rankings

7.4 **Government consumption as a percentage of GDP** (1990) - ranked **7th** out of 19 rankings

7.5 **Government transfers to persons as a percentage of GDP** - ranked 14 out of 21 rankings

7.6 **Government subsidies as a percentage of GDP** (1990) - ranked **11th** out 18 rankings

7.7 **Government debt payments as a percentage of GDP** (1990) - ranked **4th** out of 19 rankings

7.8 **Current receipts of government as a percentage of GDP** (1980-1989) - ranked **9th** out of 16 rankings

7.9 **Current receipts of government as a percentage of GDP** (1993) - ranked **11th** out of 16 rankings

7.10 **Total outlays of governments as a percentage of GDP** (1993) - ranked **13th** out of 18 rankings

7.11 **Public sector deficits as a percentage of GDP** (1980-1987) - ranked **3rd** out of 14 rankings

7.12 **Net general government debt as a percentage of GDP** (1993) - ranked **3rd** out of 15 rankings

7.13 **Interest payments as a percentage of expenditures** (1993) - ranked **6th** out of 18 rankings

9.0 SOURCES AND DEFINITIONS

POPULATION AND DEMOGRAPHY

1.1 **Population Growth:** Average Annual Growth Rates. UN Human Development Report 1993.

1.2 **Fertility Rates:** The number of children that would be born per woman, if she were to live to the end of her child-bearing years and bear children at each age in accordance with prevailing age-specific fertility rates. UN The State of the World's Children Report 1993.

1.3 **Life Expectancy At Birth:** The number of years a newborn infant would live if prevailing patterns of mortality at the time of its birth were to remain the same throughout its lifetime. UN Human development report 1993

1.4 **Percentage of the Population Aged Fifteen and Less:** The OECD In Figures, July 1992.

1.5 **Percentage of Population Aged 65 and Over:** The OECD In Figures, July 1992

1.6 **Dependency Ratio:** The ratio of the population defined as dependent, under 15 and over 64 years, to the working age population (15 to 64). UN Human Development Report 1993

LABOUR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT

2.1 **Labour Force Growth:** The average annual rate of increase in the number of persons employed or unemployed but looking for work. OECD Historical Statistics, 1991.

2.2 **Growth In The Working Age Population:** The average annual rate of increase in the number of persons aged 15 to 64. OECD Historical Statistics, 1991

2.3 **Growth in The Female Labour Force:** The average annual rate of increase in the number of females employed or unemployed but looking for work. OECD Historical Statistics, 1991

2.4 **Females as a percent of labour force:** OECD Historical Statistics, 1991

2.5 **Employment Growth:** The average annual rate of change in the number of persons employed. OECD Historical Statistics, 1991

2.6 **Unemployment:** The average annual rate of persons who are unemployed but looking for work as a percentage of the total labour force. OECD Historical Statistics, 1991

2.7 **Unemployment 1992:** The number of persons unemployed but looking for work as a percentage of the total labour force in 1992. OECD Observer, October/November 1994.

2.8 **Incidence of Long Term Unemployed:** Number of persons unemployed for more than 12 months as a percentage of total unemployed. UN Human development report 1993

2.9 **Spending on Labour Market Programs:** UN Human Development Report 1993

WEALTH

3.1&3.2 **Real GDP PER Capita:** The UN International Comparisons Project has developed measures of real GDP using purchasing power parities instead of exchange rates as conversion factors, and expressed in international dollars. UN Human Development Report, 1993

3.3 **Growth in Worker Output Compared to the USA:** Real GDP per employed person is the underlying measure of worker output. World Rank Research Team, Where We Stand, Bantam Books 1991

3.4 **Growth In Real GDP Per Person Employed:** The rate of change in the total growth of Real GDP divided by the number of employed persons. OECD Historical Statistics 1991

3.5 **Income Share of Lowest 40% of Households:** The proportion of total income controlled by households in the lowest 40% of the income distribution. UN Human Development Report 1993

3.6 **Income Ratio of the Highest Twenty Percent to the Lowest Twenty Percent:** Amount of income controlled by the highest twenty percent income group divided by the amount of income controlled by the lowest twenty percent income group. UN Human Development Report 1993

3.7 **Atkinson Inequality Index:** World Rank Research Team, Where We Stand, Bantam Books 1991

3.8 **Percentage of Children Below The Poverty Line:** World bank research Team, Where We Stand, Bantam Books 1991

HEALTH

4.1 **Infant Mortality Rates:** Deaths of persons aged less than one year per 1000 live births. UN The State of The Worlds Children 1993

4.2 **Child Mortality Rates:** Deaths of children aged five or less per 1000 live births. UN The State of the Worlds Children 1993

4.3 **Low Birth Weight Babies:** Number of newborns weighing less than 2500 grams as a percent of all births. UN The State of the Worlds Children Report

4.4 **Maternal Mortality Rates:** The number of deaths of women from pregnancy related causes per 100,000 live births: UN Human Development Report, 1993

4.5 **Probability of Dying from Cancer, Respiratory Disease or Heart Disease:** World Rank Research Team, Where We Stand, Bantam Books 1991

4.6 **Private and Public Expenditures on Health:** UN Human Development Report 1993.

4.7 **Public Health Insurance:** World Rank Research Team, Where We Stand, Bantam Books 1991

4.8 **Satisfaction With Health Care:** World Rank Research Team, Where We Stand, Bantam Books 1991

EDUCATION

5.1 **Average Years of Education For Population Aged 25 and Over:** UN Human Development Report 1993

5.2 **Post Secondary Enrollment Ratio:** The number of persons enrolled in a tertiary educational institution in the relevant age group, expressed as a percentage of the population in that age group. UN Human Development Report, 1993

5.3 **Percent of Four Year Olds In Preschool:** World Rank Research Team, Where We Stand, Bantam Books, 1991

5.4 **Educational Expenditures:** Spending by all levels of government on education: UN Human Development Report 1993

5.5 **Average Annual Increases in Educational Expenditures:** Oxley and Martin, OECD Economic Studies No. 17, 1991

PUBLIC SECURITY

6.1 **Death By Homicide and Suicide:** Deaths per 100,000 population: UN Human Development Report 1993

6.2 **Reported Rapes Per 100,000 Women Aged 15 to 64:** UN Human Development Report 1991

6.3 **Rates of Armed Robbery and Breaking/Entering per 100,000 population:** World Rank Research Team, Where We Stand, Bantam Books 1991

6.4 **Percent of Incidents Reported to Police and Number of People Per Police Officer:** World Rank Research Team, Where We Stand, Bantam Books 1991

PUBLIC FINANCE

7.1 **Government Outlays:** Current disbursements plus gross capital formation and purchases of land, and tangible assets by all levels of government. OECD Historical Statistics 1991

7.2 **Current Disbursements:** Final consumption expenditures, interest on the public debt, subsidies and social security transfers to households by all levels of government: OECD Historical Statistics 1991

7.3 **Social Security Expenditures:** social security benefits for sickness, old age, family allowances, etc., social assistance grants and unfunded employee welfare benefits paid by all levels of government. OECD Historical Statistics 1991

7.4 **Current Disbursement by Function:** For definition see VII.2 above. Oxley and Martin, OECD Economic Studies, No. 17, 1991

7.5 Ibid

7.6 **Current Receipts:** Direct and indirect taxes by all levels of government and social security contributions paid by employees and employers. OECD Historical Statistics 1991

7.7 **Current Receipts and Total Outlay as a Percentage of GDP 1993:** For definitions see above. OECD Economic Outlook June 1994

7.8 **Average Annual Deficits:** Defined as "net lending" by OECD. All levels of government. OECD Historical Statistics 1991

7.9 **Government Debt as a Percentage of GDP:** net accumulated debt by all levels of government. OECD Economic Outlook June 1994

7.10 **Interest Payments as a Percentage of GDP:** Debt interest payments by all levels of government. OECD Economic Outlook June 1994

ABBREVIATIONS

UN	United Nations
OECD	Organization for Economic Cooperation And Development